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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 9880**  
Noriaki TAKAICHI : Docket No. 2001-1772A  
Serial No. 09/980,311 : Group Art Unit 2187  
Filed February 7, 2002 : Examiner Kimberly McLean-Mayo

DATA PREREADING DEVICE, DATA  
PREREADING METHOD, AND ITS  
RECORDING MEDIA (AS AMENDED)

**RECEIVED**

AUG 19 2004

Technology Center 2100

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**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated April 15, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

08/17/2004 GWORDOF1 00000049 09980311

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